Weather

National Weather Service

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 20. Northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 43. West wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 24. South wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 55. South wind around 15 mph.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy and breezy, with a low around 40.

Saturday: A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly sunny and breezy, with a high near 56.

Saturday Night: A slight chance of rain and snow. Partly cloudy, with a low around 30. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 51.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 31.

Monday: Partly sunny, with a high near 51.

Monday Night: A slight chance of rain and snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 33. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Tuesday: A slight chance of rain and snow. Partly sunny, with a high near 50. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Monday: High, 78; Low 31
Tuesday: High, 61; Low 31
Precip: Monday 0.None
Tuesday 0.04 inches
Month: 0.04 inches
Year: 19.42 inches
Normal: 20.03 inches
(K-State Experiment Station)

Sunrise and Sunset
Thursday 8:14 a.m. 6:41 p.m.
Moon: waxing, 60 percent
(U.S. Naval Observatory)

Changes in store at emergency service

From "CHANGES," Page 1

move forward with the transition," she said, "but it doesn't need to get done until the end of 2012 and even though it's pressing, the commissioners still have plenty of time to find a qualified candidate.

"I'm excited and hopeful that the perfect person will be hired, but I also understand it takes time and we are okay with waiting."

The commissioners said there are a number of entities in the county who will be partners with the new director and it is important that the relationships be positive and well-working from the beginning. Not only will the new director supervise a group of about 30 volunteers, he or she will also work closely with Thomas County commissioners, the Thomas County medical director Dr. Brewster Kellogg, hospital staff and various other medical professionals in the community.

The commissioners have already conducted several interviews and will make their final decision after getting recommendations. Christiansen and County Clerk Shelly Harms received phone calls from Jerry Cunningham, an investigator with the Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services, who offered their expertise to help decide on the new hire.

"Jerry is hoping the commissioners will utilize their services because of the complexities of the profession," Harms said.

Bryant and the assistant director Don Morton said they also hope the commissioners will seek a recommendation from physician assistant Brian Unruh. They said Unruh is familiar with Emergency Medical Services and how they partner with Thomas County's entire medical community.

"It'll be good once we get through the stress of it all," Bryant said.

She said as soon as a director is hired, they can get registered for the new transitions, which are even more complex.

In a May 26, interview with the Kansas Health Institute, Steve Sutton, the interim executive director of the Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services, said the change was one of the most significant since the services were formed in the 1970s.

"This is changing how EMS functions," he said, "and trying for the first time to take a national approach to the way education is delivered and the tasks that attendants are expected to perform."

The new set of standards will make it easier for emergency medical technicians to transfer from one state to another.

"It could potentially bring better care to the people we serve and a greater scope of abilities we are allowed to do for a patient," Bryant said. "But there is a catch."

Bryant explained that the simplest transition from a basic emergency medical technician to the new designation could take about 26 hours of classroom time. And it could take as many as 280 classroom hours to transition from a the basic technician to the advanced designation.

She also explained that there is a local protocol that Emergency Medical Services must follow which determines what they are specifically allowed to do within Thomas County. The local protocols are set and approved by the medical director and even after the mandatory transition training is completed, Bryant said it will ultimately be the decision of Dr. Kellogg to implement the new skills or not.

Bryant said there are a lot of factors that have to be taken into account before any decisions are made, and that the process to change local protocol may take time.

She said though, no decisions need to be made now since they have not yet started the transition and there is plenty of work that needs to be done before anybody is ready to make that leap.

Revenue secretary says growth is a priority

From "GROWTH," Page 1

we're still very fragile. I don't want people thinking we're in a bull market yet."

Revenue collection has been up and down this year, he said, but the state is still up by $69.1 million for the fiscal year.

Jordan said he couldn't go into a lot of specifics about the new tax proposals yet, but he wanted to give people a general sense of what the state government is doing and hear their concerns and comments. To do this, he is embarking on a listening tour of western Kansas, which began Tuesday with visits to Great Bend, Garden City and Colby.

Jordan said Gov. Sam Brownback has put economic growth as a high priority. To do this, he put together a growth committee that includes Jordan and the secretaries of commerce, agriculture, transportation and labor. Jordan said that when they looked at the states that are seeing growth right now, they found these states had either low income taxes or none at all.

In the past, he said, Kansas has given a lot of tax breaks for large corporations, but has done little for small businesses. Of the 221,000 businesses in the state, about 191,000 qualify as small businesses – fewer than 500 workers.

Jordan said the state wants to increase the net income of families and small businesses and increase the net capital flow in Kansas. One of the things the committee is looking at, Jordan said, is looking at lowering the marginal rates – the tax rate on the last dollar of the tax base.

Jordan said the end result of any changes would be to broaden the tax base, rather than cut more out of the budget.

One thing it won't affect, he said, is property tax rates or farm valuation. Jordan said the committee is focusing on state-level taxes, rather than anything that affects local taxes.

When making a tax policy proposal, Jordan said the committee will look at a lot of different information.

The Consensus Revenue Estimating Group, made up of representatives from the Division of Budget, Department of Revenue, Legislative Research Department and consulting economists from the University of Kansas, Kansas State University and Wichita State University, meets twice a year to make budget estimates. Jordan said the group will meet next week to put together the fall estimate. Once they do, the governor will create his budget proposals from that, which he will then send to the legislature.

Jordan said his department has several types of software that are able to project how the state economy will do based on a given tax policy. The state has also enlisted the aid of Dr. Arthur Laffer, who was the principal economic advisor to President Ronald Reagan.

"We're using all that to come to the proposal we'll put on the table," Jordan said.

The committee is hoping to have their proposal done before the legislative session in January, he said, so it can undergo plenty of public scrutiny.

Barrett asked Jordan if the state has looked at any of the sales tax exemptions. Jordan said they haven't yet, and those exemptions are a touchy subject. The biggest exemptions on the books now are for residential utilities and farm equipment, he said, and very few would want to see those changed.

Jordan said he would like to change the process for determining exemptions, because legislators have a hard time saying no. He said there should be a commission to look at proposed exemptions and then make a recommendation to the Legislature.

Barrett also asked why there is no easy way to figure out if you're eligible for the Rural Opportunity Zone, which provides an income tax exemption for anyone moving to a low-population county from out of state. Jordan said there should be a way to establish eligibility online, and he would look into it.

You're Invited

City of Lights 2011 Hospice Auction

Saturday, Nov. 5th • 5:30 p.m.
City Limits Convention Center

5:30 Social Hour
6:00 Dinner
7:30 Live Auction
9:00 Dance

• Live & Silent Auctions
• Man Cave Raffle

Tickets: $35 each, Table for 8 $240

For more information & advance tickets call:
Mary Ann Downing 785-443-1684
LeAnna Soehner 785-462-1095

Briefly

Brewster church postpones dinner

The Brewster United Methodist Church has rescheduled its 57th Annual Turkey Supper to 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday at the church, 210 Nebraska Ave. The dinner was rescheduled because of possible snow Wednesday. Donations will be accepted. For information, call (785) 694-2456.

Pets available at clinic for adoption

Looking for a pet? Colby Animal Clinic has a spayed, fawn-colored female boxer mix and two rat terriers, a 1-year-old male and a two-year-old female, available for adoption. Lost or strayed animals are often brought to the clinic. Call or stop by 810 E. Fourth St. All animals have current shots, and costs are minimal. For questions, call 460-8621.

Episcopal group selling nuts now

The Colby Episcopal Churchwomen are selling fresh crop pecans and various nuts such as cashews, pralines and walnuts. For information, call Mary Molstad at the Ascension on the Prairie Church, 462-7198.

Food sign up open at insurance office

Prairie Land Food sign up is open until Monday at the State Farm Insurance office. The food will be delivered at 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 19, at the Sacred Heart School gym. For information, call Gene Griffin at 460-3579.

College students plan soup supper Saturday

The first-year dental hygiene students at Colby Community College will hold a soup supper from 5 to 8 p.m. Saturday at the Meadow Lake Country Club to raise money for the Students of the American Dental Hygiene Association. Money raised will be divided among the clinic on campus, the community and the association. For information, call (785) 735-4524.

Catholic church to cook turkey dinner

Sacred Heart Catholic Church will have an old-fashioned Thanksgiving dinner from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday in the church basement. Dinner will include turkey, ham, potatoes, corn and homemade pie. Donations will be accepted. To schedule a Meals on Wheels delivery, call 462-2179 until 5 p.m. Friday and 460-2813 on Saturday afternoon and Sunday.

Agriculture department to give out commodities

The U.S. Department of Agriculture will distribute excess commodities to eligible people from 1 to 2 p.m. Monday at the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program office in the Senior Progress Center. Distribution is on first come-first-served basis and participants are asked not to arrive at the distribution site before 12:30 p.m. For information, call the office at 462-6744.

Local TV Listings

Sponsored by the Colby Free Press

Thursday Evening — **November 3, 2011**

	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	Charlie's Angels		Grey's Anatomy		Private Practice		Local	Nightline	Jimmy Kimmel Live	
KBSL/CBS	Big Bang	Rules	Person of Interest		The Mentalist		Local	Late Show Letterman		Late
KSNK/NBC	Community	Parks	Office	Whitney	Prime Suspect		Local	Tonight Show w/Leno		Late
KSAS/FOX	The X Factor		Bones		Local					
Cable Channels										
A & E	The First 48		The First 48		Border	Border	The First 48		The First 48	
AMC	Quick-Dead					Quick-Dead				
ANIM	Super Snake		Rattlesnake Republic		Wildman	Ned Bruha	Rattlesnake Republic		Wildman	Ned Bruha
BRAVO	Real Housewives		Matchmaker		Matchmaker		Real Housewives		Real Housewives	
CMT	Sweet Home Alabama		Sweet Home Alabama		Cowboys Cheerleaders		Sweet Home Alabama		Cowboys Cheerleaders	
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360		Piers Morgan Tonight		Anderson Cooper 360		E. B. OutFront		Piers Morgan Tonight	
COMEDY	Futurama	Futurama	Katt Williams		Stand-Up	Tosh.0	Daily	Colbert	Tosh.0	Stand-Up
DISC	American Chopper		Gold Rush		Auction	Auction	Gold Rush		Auction	Auction
DISN	Shake It	Phineas and Ferb: The Movie			Jessie	ANT Farm	Shake It	Shake It	Wizards	Wizards
E!	Sex-City	Sex-City	Kardashian				Chelsea	E! News		Chelsea
ESPN	College Football						SportsCenter			
ESPN2	MLS Soccer				MLS Soccer				NFL Live	
FAM	Bruce Almighty		Evan Almighty				The 700 Club		Whose?	Whose?
FOOD	Chopped		Chopped		Sweet Genius		Sweet Genius		Chopped	
FX	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Sunny	League	Sunny	League	League	Sunny
HGTV	First	First	House	Hunters	Selling L	Selling	House	Hunters	House	Hunters
HIST	Swamp People		Swamp People		Stan Lee's		Harvest		Swamp People	
LIFE	Project Runway		Project Runway		Project Accessory		Project Runway		Project Runway	
MTV	The Real World		Good Vibe	Beavis	Beavis	Good Vibe	Beavis	Good Vibe	The Real World	
NICK	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	'70s Show	'70s Show	George	George	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SCI	Lake Placid 2		Lake Placid 3				Sharktopus			
SPIKE	Jail	Jail	iMPACT Wrestling				The Stranger			
TBS	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Conan		Office	Office
TCM	Romance-Seas				April in Paris					
TLC	Hoard-Buried		Undercover Boss		Cellblock 6		Undercover Boss		Cellblock 6	
TNT	CSI: NY		CSI: NY		CSI: NY		CSI: NY		CSI: NY	
TOON	Regular	MAD	King/Hill	King/Hill	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Childrens	Aqua Teen
TRAV	Man, Food	Man, Food	Man, Food	Man, Food	Man, Food	Man, Food	Man, Food	Man, Food	Man, Food	Man, Food
TV LAND	Married	Married	Scrubs	Scrubs	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Roseanne	Roseanne
USA	Burn Notice		Burn Notice		Burn Notice		Covert Affairs		Law & Order: SVU	
VH1	One Hit Wonders				SNL in '90s				Tough Love: Miami	
WGN	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	WGN News at Nine		30 Rock	Scrubs	Scrubs	Sunny
Premium Channels										
HBO	Marathon Boy				Bored	Hung	Taxicab Confessions		America	Enlighten
MAX	Blk Swan	Romancing the Stone			Jewel of Nile					
SHOW	Waiting for Forever		From the Sky Down			Teller	Gigolos	Old Porn	Gigolos	Old Porn

©2009 Hometown Content, listings by Zap2it

Friday Evening — **November 4, 2011**

	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	Extreme Makeover		Extreme Makeover		20/20		Local	Nightline	Jimmy Kimmel Live	
KBSL/CBS	A Gifted Man		CSI: NY		Blue Bloods		Local	Late Show Letterman		Late
KSNK/NBC	Chuck		Grimm		Dateline NBC		Local	Tonight Show w/Leno		Late
KSAS/FOX	Kitchen Nightmares		Fringe		Local					
Cable Channels										
A & E	Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds	
AMC	Lake Placid				The Walking Dead		Talk Dead	Lake Placid		
ANIM	Fatal Attractions		Animal Phobia		Animal Phobia		Animal Phobia		Animal Phobia	
BRAVO	Housewives/Atl.		Housewives/Atl.		Housewives/Atl.		Housewives/Atl.		Housewives/Atl.	
CMT	Trick My What?		Trick My What?		Trick My What?		Blue Collar			
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360		Piers Morgan Tonight		Anderson Cooper 360		E. B. OutFront		24/7	24/7
COMEDY	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Work.	South Pk	Tosh.0	Stand-Up	South Pk	Napoleon Dynamite		
DISC	Gold Rush		Gold Rush		Flying Wild Alaska		Gold Rush		Flying Wild Alaska	
DISN	Wizards	ANT Farm	Jessie	Fish Hook	Vampire	Good Luck	Shake It	Jessie	Jessie	ANT Farm
E!	Sex-City	Sex-City	E Special	Kendra	The Soup	Fashion	Chelsea	E! News		Chelsea
ESPN	Coll. Football Live		College Football						SportsCenter	
ESPN2	College Football						SportsCenter		NFL Kickoff	
FAM	Funniest Home Videos		Funniest Home Videos		Funniest Home Videos		The 700 Club		Whose?	Whose?
FOOD	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Crave	Diners	Diners
FX	How I Met	How I Met	Tropic Thunder					Tropic Thunder		
HGTV	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters
American Profile	*We Celebrate Hometown Life* — Stories from hometowns just like yours. Look for us each week in this paper.									
HIST	American	American	American	American	Hairy Bik	Hairy Bik	IRT Deadliest Roads		American	American
LIFE	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba
MTV	Good Vibe	Beavis	The Real World		Get Rich or Die					Hustle
NICK	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	'70s Show	'70s Show	George	George	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SCI	WWE SmackDown!				Sanctuary		Fact or Faked		Sanctuary	
SPIKE	Gangland		The Fugitive		Gangland		Gangland		Gangland	
TBS	Browns	Browns	Payne	Payne	The Wizard of Oz					Lemony
TCM	The Invisible Man			Gold Diggers of 1935				Here Comes the Navy		
TLC	Say Yes	Say Yes	Say Yes	Say Yes	Brides	Brides	Say Yes	Say Yes	Brides	Brides
TNT	Seven Pounds					Seven Pounds				
TOON	Star Wars	Thundr.	King/Hill	King/Hill	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Chicken	Aqua Teen
TRAV	Ghost Adventures		Ghost Adventures		The Dead Files		Ghost Adventures		Ghost Adventures	
TV LAND	Married	Married	Scrubs	Scrubs	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Roseanne	Roseanne
USA	NCIS		NCIS		NCIS		CSI: Crime Scene		CSI: Crime Scene	
VH1	Behind the Music		Behind the Music		Behind the Music		Purple Rain			
WGN	30 Rock	30 Rock	How I Met	How I Met	WGN News at Nine		30 Rock	Scrubs	Scrubs	Sunny
Premium Channels										
HBO	Knight and Day			Bored	Real Time/Bill Maher		Real Time/Bill Maher		Hung	24/7
MAX	Avatar				Strike Back		Chemistry	Skin-Max	Strike Back	
SHOW	Peep World			Push				Sex, Lies, and Videotape		

©2009 Hometown Content, listings by Zap2it